

Author's Purpose and Perspective for Different Types of Writing

Type of Writing	Author's Purpose	Point of View and Tone
Non-fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • News articles • Textbook • Biography • Documentary • Technical Manual • Chart, graph, table 	<p>To inform, explain, give directions, illustrate, or present information.</p>	<p>The author's point of view and tone is primarily neutral.</p>
Persuasive Pieces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial • Advertisement • Political speech • Bumper sticker • Billboard • Commercial • Debate 	<p>To persuade by expressing an opinion to convince readers to think/feel/act a certain way.</p>	<p>The point of view clearly reflects the author's attitude about a subject. Sometimes the opinion is directly stated and other times it is implied. The author may try to convince readers by using tone to appeal to their feelings and/or values.</p>
Fiction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short story • Poetry • Novel • Drama 	<p>To illustrate a theme, event, or story that conveys a mood. Usually written to entertain.</p>	<p>The author may use characters or narrators to express attitudes in the story. The tone might range from light and humorous all the way to serious and sad.</p>
Personal Writings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diary • Journal • Letter • Autobiography • Personal Narrative • Reflective Essay 	<p>To express feelings or to share experiences.</p>	<p>The author is sharing his/her personal perspective on the topic. The tone may range from positive to negative. Ex.— nostalgic to remorseful to bitter</p>